

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Original): A method of controlling an image apparatus having a light-receiving section and a light-blocking section comprising the steps of:

receiving light from an object by the light-receiving section to generate a plurality of analog video signals for a first field period;

blocking the light by the light-blocking section to generate reference signals for each analog video signal;

converting the analog video signals into digital video signals;

accumulating the reference signals for each digital video signal to generate a first accumulated signal;

averaging the first accumulated signal to generate a first average signal;

accumulating the first average signal for all the video signals for a second field that follows the first field period to generate a second accumulated signal;

averaging the second accumulated signal to generate a second average signal; and

adjusting a reference level of each digital video signal based on the second average signal so that the difference between the digital video signals and the second average signal becomes zero.

Claims 6 – 7 (Cancelled)